

safe environment for children within the community. I was also able to set a positive example for the children through my actions and emphasize the importance of service and kindness.

—*Brianna Burnstad.*

**HONORING JENNIFER STIMPSON
FOR HER WORK WITH THE DAL-
LAS "CEASE THE GREASE" PRO-
GRAM**

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 1, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the residents of the Thirtieth Congressional District of Texas, I want to congratulate my friend, Jennifer Stimpson for her work with the Dallas, "Cease the Grease" program. Jennifer who is science faculty with The Hockaday School, is helping citizens understand the benefits of recycling used cooking oil.

Jennifer, a scientist by profession, has taken her passion to the classroom, incorporating within her lectures the "how-to's" of converting used cooking oil into bio-fuel. Jennifer Stimpson's passion is what will ultimately get more young people involved in the sciences. I am so proud when I hear of leaders like Jennifer who are thinking outside of the box. We need more individuals like Jennifer who are finding new creative ways to inspire many more future generations to pursue rewarding careers in science and engineering.

I cannot emphasize enough the importance of science and engineering. As a country we have been falling behind other nations in Math and Science education for several years now. The number of scientific papers published by Americans is declining. Americans are receiving fewer Nobel Prizes in the sciences. There is evidence that the foundation of our innovation-based economy is experiencing dangerous deterioration. For America, this is unacceptable.

Jennifer, I congratulate you and wish you much continued success. Our nation is a better place because we have individuals such as you. I ask all of my colleagues to join in celebrating Jennifer Stimpson on her many accomplishments and dedication to educating our nation's future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 1, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably delayed and my vote was not recorded on rollcall No. 213. Had I been present I would have voted "no" for the following reasons:

1. The underlying bill, H.R. 1255 is unconstitutional because it violates Article 1, Section 7, Clause 2 of the Constitution which states "Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, be-

fore it become a law, be presented to the President of the United States."

2. The underlying bill will "deem" H.R. 1 as signed into law, which waives the constitutional requirement of having legislation pass both the House and the Senate and signed by the President before it becomes a law.

3. H.R. 1 is a reckless bill that destroys jobs, slashes critical funding for education, homeland security, and public health.

4. This violates section 426(a) of the Congressional Budget Act by imposing an unfunded mandate.

**FAA REAUTHORIZATION AND
REFORM ACT OF 2011**

SPEECH OF

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 31, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 658) to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2011 through 2014, to streamline programs, create efficiencies, reduce waste, and improve aviation safety and capacity, to provide stable funding for the national aviation system, and for other purposes:

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of the amendment offered by my colleague, Representative MILLER of Michigan. It is important that the FAA work with other federal agencies, including the National Guard, to integrate Unmanned Aerial Systems into the National Airspace System.

My district is the home of the 174th Attack Wing of the Air National Guard that uses Hancock Field in Syracuse. They use Unmanned Air Vehicles, UAVs, that currently must be transported to and from Fort Drum in order to perform their mission.

It is important that the FAA integrate these UAVs into the National Airspace System as quickly and safely as possible. In addition to performing a critical mission for national security, the 174th is responsible for 1300 jobs in the Syracuse area. Finding a way to get the federal agencies to work together to allow UAVs to operate out of Hancock Field is important to the economy of this region.

I strongly support this amendment and encourage the Chairman of the Transportation Committee to protect and strengthen this provision in conference.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE NUCLEAR
WEAPONS ABOLITION AND ECO-
NOMIC AND ENERGY CONVER-
SION ACT OF 2011**

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 1, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Nuclear Weapons Abolition and

Economic and Energy Conversion Act of 2011, a version of which I have introduced since 1994, after working with the District of Columbia residents who were responsible for the Nuclear Disarmament and Economic Conversion ballot initiative passed by DC voters in 1993. This version of the bill now requires the United States to negotiate an international agreement to disable and dismantle its nuclear weapons by 2020 and provides for strict control of fissile material and radioactive waste and for use of nuclear free energy resources. The bill continues to provide that the funds used for nuclear weapons programs be redirected towards human and infrastructure needs, such as housing, health care, Social Security and the environment. The bill is particularly timely as Congress continues to make cuts to important human and infrastructure programs and as the world confronts nuclear catastrophe in Japan. This year, I introduce the bill to recognize the Alliance of Nuclear Accountability's DC Days 2011, beginning on Monday, and in memory of William Thomas, who died in 2009 after demonstrating in front of the White House in an anti-nuclear vigil for nearly 28 years. His efforts were the longest uninterrupted anti-war protest in U.S. history. William Thomas made the cause of peace the centerpiece of his meaningful life and was an example for us all.

Following years of dangerous increases in U.S. nuclear capacity during the George W. Bush administration, President Barack Obama has begun to rebuild U.S. credibility with his goal of taking the necessary steps to achieve a world without nuclear weapons. The President's strong push for the New START treaty last year, when Republicans seemed adamant on stalling it, resulted in ratification by the Senate. The treaty requires the two major nuclear powers, Russia and the United States, continue to reduce nuclear weapons by mutually reducing their nuclear warheads by half and their number of intercontinental ballistic missiles and missile launchers, and, within sixty days of the treaty's entry into force, on February 5, 2011, submit to on-site inspections of strategic nuclear weapons facilities by the weapons experts of the other country.

Despite the progress embodied by the New START treaty, the events of the last few weeks remind us of the urgent need to rid the world of nuclear weapons. The tragic nuclear catastrophe in Japan, a result of a massive earthquake and tsunami, demonstrates another, perhaps even more likely, nuclear peril. Radiation has been detected around the world since the Fukushima nuclear plant meltdown. It is painfully ironic that the one country that has been attacked with nuclear weapons is now struggling to control its own nuclear capability after the plant meltdown. The U.S. has an obligation to lead in ridding the world of nuclear weapons.

Today, our country has a long list of urgent domestic needs that have been put on the back burner even though millions of Americans have lost their homes and jobs. As the only nation that has used nuclear weapons in war, and that still possesses the largest nuclear weapons arsenal, I urge support for my bill to help the United States lead the world in redirecting funds that would otherwise go to nuclear weapons to instead be available for urgent domestic needs.